

artsnews

September – December 2010

Seventh Annual Carlsbad Music Festival

From September 24 through September 26

A breezy beachside town isn't the typical location for a cutting-edge contemporary chamber music festival, but then again, "nothing about the Carlsbad Music Festival is typical," claims founder Matt McBane. That includes receiving this year's Award for Adventurous Programming from Chamber Music America and ASCAP, recognizing the young festival over 60 competitors nationwide. It also includes Matt, raised and musically trained in Carlsbad, where he returns often each year from performing and composing in New York City. "The surfing is a lot better here," he notes.

The Carlsbad Music Festival's award for adventurous programming is well deserved. Formed by musicians barely out of their teens and dedicated to music that is hard to categorize, the Festival presents passionate musicians on the rise in the concert world, artists and works that define the sound of post-modern classical music, and world premiere compositions by emerging composers who come to Carlsbad for a week of energetic collaboration in the California sunshine. The musicians overrun the family homes of McBane and his grade school friend Ben Jacobson, violinist with the Calder Quartet, bunking

together, hitting the beach and talking music nonstop. And performing too!

The Calder Quartet's presence is another atypical Festival twist: friends since college and already accomplished performers, the foursome co-founded the Festival in 2004 as Ensemble-in-Residence. Since then, the Calder Quartet has reached international acclaim as the most exciting young American string quartet of the new century. Their repertoire leaps from Handel and Mozart to Ravel and Bartok to Ades, Riley and Rouse and a zest for experiment regularly finds them on

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Calder Quartet

Contemporary. Classical. Cutting Edge.

tour and on television performing with indie-rockers like Airborne Toxic Event and Andrew W.K. Still, each year they return to Carlsbad to play the newest music on the planet for captivated middle school orchestra classes and enthralled concert audiences.

So what will this seventh annual Carlsbad Music Festival offer in 2010? Along with the usual free school performances, pre-concert Q-&A with artists, and lively post-concert artist-and-audience receptions, that is?

New this year will be a Village Music Stroll – a free, interactive encounter with Festival artists along a performance trail that includes Spin Records, Ivanffy-Uhler Gallery and the Renaissance Music School in Carlsbad Village. Young Australian composer Kate Moore, winner of this year's

Composers' Competition, will unveil a new piece for the Calder Quartet. Her work, described as "amazing...dreamy...occasionally nightmarish," includes a work for piano, stapler, plastic cups and a fan.

The American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME - strings, woodwinds, piano and percussion) dedicates itself to masterworks of the 20th and 21st centuries, embracing "minimalists, maximalists, eclectics and newcomers" according to Time Out New York and will premiere a new work by Festival Artistic Director McBane. Pianist Eric Huebner presents

a solo recital concert in the Schulman Auditorium on Saturday afternoon, and percussionist/composer Nathan Davis performs his "acoustoelectronic" works in various Festival venues and hears his Festival-commissioned piece "Skrzyp Skrzyn" played by the Calder in concert. And much more! Remember, it's a Festival!

The Cultural Arts Office is a presenting partner of the Festival, with promotional and marketing assistance provided by the Museum of Making Music. Major funding for the Festival comes from the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund.

Festival details (times, tickets, lineups)

www.carlsbadmusicfestival.org

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Another great TGIF season!

What a great and memorable TGIF Jazz season! Truly fitting for a 25th anniversary! Every Friday night was like a huge block party, with friends and neighbors having a great time listening to music, picnicking, dancing...

As usual nowadays, the Opportunity Drawings were great fun too. And very successful, thanks to our generous donors, hard-working and dedicated volunteers, and of course, everyone who bought tickets! Look for the list of our wonderful TGIF volunteers in the next issue. Right now, we want to thank our prize donors – because without them, we wouldn't have the Opportunity Drawings!

Grand Prize Donors

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Which Wich?

Hope we didn't miss anyone!

Again, many many thanks to all the businesses and friends who donated to the Opportunity Drawings. And we hope to see you on this list again next year!!



Exhibitions

Two Unique Artists...

The World of Adonna Khare: Beasts, Backpacks and Curious Creatures September 12 – November 7, 2010

Los Angeles-based artist Adonna Khare is wild about animals. Literally. Her elegant drawings of flora and fauna posit dream-like scenarios in which strange animal hybrids carry backpacks and dangle from swings, suggesting not only the fantastic gardens of 15th century Dutch painter Hieronymus Bosch but also the whimsical woodlands of American illustrator Maurice Sendak. In one of her drawings, an oddly curled chameleon looks like it's weighted down by an enormous pear strapped to its back. In another image there is a giant blue peacock perched on the back of a miniature buffalo. And then there's the stately but rather bored-looking lion depicted below...

The animals in Khare's drawings look quite real at first glance, and yet...with their odd growths, unusual situations, and quirky human attributes, they begin to look pretty strange and curious at the same time. Ultimately, these works – ranging from small, precise drawings to a 30-foot-long mural – are both fascinating and delightful, and display not only a spectacular technical ability but also a very wild and very woolly imagination!

Born in 1980 in Glendale, California, Adonna Khare holds a B.A. in Art and an M.F.A. in Illustration from California State University, Long Beach. She has been recognized by The Los Angeles Times, U-Press Telegram, and KCRW's Art Critic, Edward Goldman. Currently, Khare is illustrating a forthcoming novel for children called *Professor Parrot and the Secret of the Blue Cupboard*, written by noted ecologist, author and filmmaker Michael Tobias.

DeLoss McGraw: Recent Paintings in Response to Günter Grass's *The Tin Drum*

November 21, 2010 – January 16, 2011

In May, 2000, the work of noted American artist DeLoss McGraw was featured in an exhibition presented in the Cannon Art Gallery during its inaugural year. Now in celebration of its 10th anniversary, the gallery invites the artist back once again. McGraw has often drawn inspiration from the work of writers and for this exhibition, he has created a series of paintings that respond to Günter Grass's 1959 black comedy masterpiece about the madness of war, *The Tin Drum*.

Below Adonna Khare, *Elephant, Lion, Buffalo* (detail), 2007, carbon pencil on paper

Right DeLoss McGraw, *Oskar's Breakdown*, 2010, gouache and oil on birch panel



Two Unique Visions

In a recent essay, art critic Robert Pincus wrote: "In his imagery, McGraw persistently pits the light and comedy of innocence against the darkness and tragedy of its potential defeat." He was writing about an exhibition of paintings McGraw had done in response to the work of Joseph Cornell, Lewis Carroll and Richard Brautigan. But Pincus' words could as easily be applied to this newest series of paintings with an intriguing dialogue established between the underlying dark tenor of Grass' novel and the artist's own exuberant and vivid vocabulary.

Born in Okemah, Oklahoma, McGraw migrated to California in order to attend Long Beach State University and the Otis Art Institute. In addition, he studied at Michigan's Cranbrook Academy of Art, where he received his MFA in 1973.

Drawing inspiration from writers, relationships and his own personal memories, McGraw has developed a pictorial style in which recognizable forms are morphed by his imagination into objects of poetic fancy. His figuration has also been greatly inspired by so-called "outsider art," most notably by the work of American folk artists that McGraw has collected since his childhood. It is from these sources that the artist's paintings have derived their rough-hewn quality.

McGraw's work has been exhibited extensively throughout the United States and Europe. He has had more than 100 solo exhibitions, and his work is in collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art Library, The Library of Congress, the San Diego Museum of Art, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and many other public and private institutions. His work is also on permanent display in the Carlsbad City Library as part of the city's Public Art Collection. His illustrated version of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* won the Illustrator's Society Book of the Year Award in 2002 and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York recently acquired two of his paintings.



Here and There

"Weill Awhile" with Ann Chase

Friday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. • Free
Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium
Carlsbad City Library complex
at Dove Lane

Classic soprano and cabaret artist Ann Chase brings her gift for the right note, word, gesture and attitude to the work of Kurt Weill, the toast of Berlin's theatres and nightclubs in the 1920s. Ms. Chase is no stranger to Carlsbad audiences, who filled Schulman Auditorium to capacity for her 2010 Valentine's Day concert. For "Weill Awhile," she will perform with an accompanist at the piano and a full media display showing the life and times of her subject. After his *Threepenny Opera* gave the world *Mack the Knife*, Weill escaped Nazi persecution by coming to the United States, where he created music for the Broadway stage including *September Song* and *Lost in the Stars*. The concert is free, but seating is limited. Tickets will be distributed starting at 6 p.m. with the concert beginning at 7 p.m. Made possible in part by the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund.

Family Open Studios "Plus" – Artistic Animals

Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Free
Performances at 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Carlsbad City Library complex, courtyard
and Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium

Join us for another fun-filled Family Open Studios "Plus" event. On this Saturday, you'll tour the wonderful exhibition by Adonna Khare in the Cannon Art Gallery, and then try your hand at drawing your own animals using colored pencils. Inside the Schulman Auditorium, Pacific Animal Productions offers *Artistic Animals*, a presentation that showcases how mammals, reptiles, and amphibians change their body coverings and camouflage themselves. There will also be a petting zoo. Plus, the artist will be there as well. It all adds up to a fun- and furry-filled day.

Family Open Studios are generously funded by the Carlsbad Friends of the Arts. The "Plus" programs are made possible by the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund.

Eleven Years of High Cs!

Opera Previews with Dr. Ron Shaheen

Saturday, Jan. 29, 10 a.m. • Free
Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium
Carlsbad City Library complex
at Dove Lane

They don't start until 2011, but we know Dr. Shaheen's loyal audience will want to note the date of the first lecture of the coming season. The subject: *Turandot*, the story of the icy Chinese princess whose impossible riddles doom suitors to death. Puccini's music, David Hockney's set designs, and background about the performers all add up to an entertaining morning of talk about the San Diego Opera's season opener. Look for all the lecture dates and details, including a special presentation on Monday, April 25 by SDO Education Director Nicolas Reveles, in our next issue.

And if you love attending San Diego Opera productions as well as learning about them, join the Opera Caravan and ride by chartered coach from the Library to Sunday matinee or Tuesday evening performances. Caravan tickets are \$20, about the same cost as gas and parking for a lot less effort!

Call the Opera Caravan Hotline, 619-533-7058 to reserve your space.

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Ruby can't wait for Family Open Studios "Plus" on October 9

What's Happening in Carlsbad

ArtSplash

Sept. 25 and 26, 2010

Armada Drive, above the Flower Fields®
Carlsbad

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday

ArtSplash is a two-day, community-wide celebration of the arts centered around the colorful, centuries-old, European tradition of chalk art street painting. The event also includes artist displays and demonstrations, hands-on activities for all ages, street entertainment, continuous music, great food, and always a few surprises. "Taste at ArtSplash" takes place on Saturday. Don't miss out on all the fun! For more information, visit: www.carlsbad-artsplash.org

The Carlsbad Village Banner Project

The arts are blossoming in Carlsbad Village – more and more. One of the most exciting, and certainly one of the most colorful, projects to take shape recently is the Village Banner Project. Eight wonderful banners are now on display along Grand Avenue, between Roosevelt and State.

The imagery for the banners came from Valley Middle School students. In the spring of 2010, 31 advanced art students at the school, under the direction of art teacher Sue DeWulf and Cardiff-based artist Gerrit Greve, created 73 paintings for a project called Healing Waters. The works selected for the banners were created by Oscar Bermudez, Sjana Carter, Stephanie Elkins, Andres Garcia, Samantha Lopez, Katelyn Maddox, Alana Uriel and James Zatrine (all ninth-graders as of September 2010).

The Village Banner Project was organized and carried out by the City of Carlsbad's Housing and Neighborhood Services department and the Cultural Arts Office. More information and a book about the Valley Middle school project, entitled *Healing Waters III*, is available on www.blurb.com

Tenth Anniversaries

Ten seems to be an important number this year for two of our favorite Carlsbad cultural institutions.

For New Village Arts, it's their 10th season, one which includes their first full-fledged musical (*Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine), a San Diego premiere (*Waving Goodbye* by Jamie Pachino), a regional premiere (*Sweet Storm* by Scott Hudson), David Sedaris' hilarious *Santaland Diaries*, Sam Shepard's *Simpatico*, and Arthur Miller's true American classic, *Death of a Salesman*. In other words, the tenth NVA season looks rather spectacular!

At the Museum of Making Music, it's their tenth anniversary of being open to the public. And they are celebrating with

a special concert series – in addition to all the regular musical presentations and exhibitions they already offer! So things are hopping (or should we say swinging) over at the Museum.

Both institutions are, as we said, on our "favorites" list. They should be on yours too! Both present top quality cultural offerings right here in Carlsbad (no need to drive down to San Diego or up to LA) and deserve your support!

Find New Village Arts at 2787 State Street in Carlsbad, 760-433-3245.

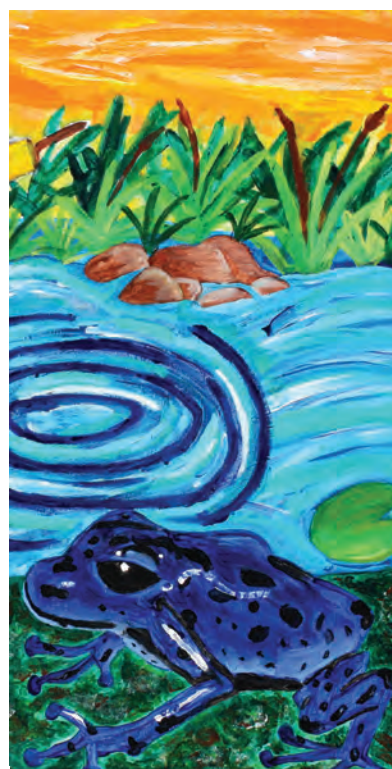
www.newvillagearts.org

Find the Museum of Making Music at 5790 Armada Drive in Carlsbad, 760-438-5996.

www.museumofmakingmusic.org



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Cultural Arts Office
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Useful Information

The Cultural Arts Office and the Sculpture Garden are located at 2955 Elmwood, just a few steps north of the Cole Library.

Mailing address: 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008
Phone: 760-434-2920

Office hours:
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The William D. Cannon Art Gallery and the Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium are located in the Carlsbad City Library complex at 1775 Dove Lane Carlsbad, CA 92011

Gallery hours:
Tuesday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: 760-602-2021

For up-to-date information about Arts Office programs, call the Arts Info Line: 760-434-2904 or check us out on the city's website: www.carlsbadca.gov/arts

Some Important Dates for Your Calendar

Opening reception for the new Village Banner installation

Thursday, Sep. 30, 2010 • 6 - 7 p.m.
Ivanffy-Uhler Gallery
565 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad

Join us for some light refreshments as we honor the artists and celebrate the installation of new banners on Grand Avenue. See page 7 for more details about the banner project.

Carlsbad Friends of the Arts Annual Meeting

Friday, Jan. 28, 2011 • 5:30 p.m.
Museum of Making Music
5790 Armada Drive, Carlsbad

The annual meeting will be followed by a small wine and cheese reception. Then plan to stay for another great Museum of Making Music concert at 7 p.m. This concert will feature Mondo Basso, with Gunnar Biggs on bass and Bill Bradbury on mandolin. Look for more details and concert ticket information in our next newsletter or on the MMM Web site later in the fall: www.museumofmakingmusic.org

Community Arts Grants Workshop

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 5-7 p.m.
Gowland Meeting Room
Carlsbad City Library complex

September to mid-October is the time for arts organizations and Carlsbad schools to develop their proposals for the 2011 Community Arts Grants. Guidelines and application forms can be found online at www.carlsbadca.gov/arts and in hard copy form at all city library locations, or mailed upon request (760-434-2920). All new applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the Community Arts Grants workshop on September 15. Call Community Arts Coordinator Colleen Finnegan for further information: 760-434-2900.